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TURKS AND CAICOS ISLANDS

Working paper prepared by the Secretariat

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I. GENERAL 1/

1. The Turks and Caicos Islands lie south-east of the Bahama Islands and about 145 kilometres north of the Dominican Republic. The Territory consists of two groups of islands separated by Turks Island Passage, a deep-water channel approximately 35 kilometres wide. The Turks Islands are situated east of the Passage and the Caicos Islands west of it. The Turks group comprises two inhabited islands, namely, Grand Turk (on which Cockburn Town, the capital, is located) and Salt Cay, as well as eight uninhabited cays and a large number of islets. The principal islands in the Caicos group are North Caicos, South Caicos, Middle (or Grand) Caicos and Providenciales. East Caicos and West Caicos are uninhabited.

2. According to information received from the Office of the Chief Minister of the Territory, the latest census taken in the Territory, on 31 May 1990, registered a population of 11,465, a 54.5 per cent increase from 7,413 tallied in the 1980 census. In mid-1991, the population was estimated at 12,500. 2/

II. CONSTITUTION AND CONSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENTS

A. Constitution

3. The 1988 Constitution of the Territory provides for a Governor appointed by the Queen, an Executive Council and a Legislative Council. The new Legislative Council consists of 19 members. There are 13 elected representatives, 3 members appointed by the Governor and 3 ex officio members of the Executive Council. Under the Constitution, the three members appointed by the Governor are chosen as follows: one member on the advice of the Chief Minister, another in consultation with the Leader of the Opposition and a third at his own discretion.

4. The Turks and Caicos Islands Constitution Order, 1988, conferred powers of administration on the Governor that were usually those of the elected Government. According to the Constitution, the Governor may refuse to assent to legislation or bills passed by the Legislature. He may also enforce bills that have not previously been approved by the Legislature.

B. Political parties and elections

5. General elections are held every four years. The general elections of 3 April 1991 were contested by candidates from the two traditional political parties, namely, the Progressive National Party (PNP) and the People's Democratic Movement (PDM). PNP won 8 of the 13 seats in the Legislative Council. PDM won the five remaining seats. 3/

6. On the basis of these returns, the Governor appointed the head of PNP, Mr. Charles Washington Misick, as Chief Minister and four other elected members of the Council as Government Ministers. 4/ The new Government was sworn in on 15 April 1991 during the first session of the Legislative Council. 3/

C. Future status of the Territory

7. During his visit to the Territory on 20 July 1991, an official of the British Government, the Head of the Dependent Territories Section, West Indies and Atlantic Department of the Foreign and Commonwealth Office, stated that his Government would neither encourage nor discourage the people of the Turks and Caicos Islands if they decided to opt for independence and would be totally neutral on the issue. His Government would, however, abide by the constitutionally expressed wish of the people.

8. He added that the question of independence had not been raised during his talks with the Chief Minister, members of his Government, the Leader of the Opposition and representatives of a wide cross-section of the Islands' community; neither had independence been a major issue during the campaign for the general elections. He praised the territorial Government's aim to achieve economic independence 5/ by the year 1996 (see paras. 27 and 28).

9. Following a review of its policy towards and management of its Caribbean dependent Territories, initiated in 1991, the United Kingdom made a significant policy change in 1992 (the policy statement has been reproduced in extenso in A/AC.109/1137, para. 17).

10. The new policy envisages better dialogue, coordination and cooperation between the United Kingdom and the Territories. It also aims at restructuring the management of the Foreign and Commonwealth Office as well as the Overseas Development Agency (ODA), both in the United Kingdom and in the Caribbean.

11. Within this framework, a full-time official from the Foreign and Commonwealth Office will be appointed to assist each Governor. Also, in order to improve coordination in London, a Ministerial Board of Management which is to be chaired by the Foreign and Commonwealth Office Minister responsible for the Caribbean will be established. The Board is intended to bring together those British Government departments and agencies which have a part to play in the affairs of the Territories.

12. A regional secretariat for the Caribbean Dependent Territories, led by a senior Foreign and Commonwealth official, is to be established in Barbados. The secretariat will manage both funds for the Caribbean Territories from ODA and the Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

13. A statement from the Foreign and Commonwealth Office said that in their overall concern to help promote good government and economic development, British ministers had decided that priority must be given to bringing the regulation of offshore financial services into line with internationally accepted norms.

14. The statement further said that urgent consideration would be given to the need to revise outdated laws and to improve the standards of judiciary and court administration.

15. Apart from the Foreign and Commonwealth Office and ODA, representatives from the Treasury, the Home Office, the Department of Trade and Industry, the Ministry of Defence, the Department of Transport, the Department of the

Environment and the Bank of England will be invited to be represented on a regular basis.

16. In November 1992, the Chief Minister of the Turks and Caicos met in Montserrat with his counterparts of Anguilla, the British Virgin Islands and Montserrat, to formulate a common position on the British review of policy and management of the Caribbean dependent Territories outlined above. 6/

17. In his address to the Legislature on 30 March 1992, the Chief Minister said that "We should not seek political independence at this time as others would have us do. In the short term, this would only result in the lowering of standards, bastardization of values, the practice of corruption, the pollution of the system of justice and manipulation of the electorate as has happened in many of our neighbouring Caribbean countries".

D. Public service

18. In his 1992 Budget Speech, the Chief Minister said that over 50 per cent of the Territory's annual budget was related to manpower costs. He added that the budgeted expenditure for the civil service for 1991/92 was US$ 29.2 million, 7/ an increase of 12.6 per cent over the previous year. The Chief Minister further said that it was essential to contain the growth of the civil service in order to ensure the success of the Government's financial policies.

19. The Government was committed to policies which would result in a productive and cost-effective civil service. In order to achieve that goal, every effort had been made to keep the civil service budget to the minimum sum required to operate services effectively and maintain standards.

20. The manpower budget before the House contained provisions for a substantial increase in the number of civil service posts, however, from 820 the previous year to 879 currently. The Chief Minister said that public sector reform did not merely involve cutting jobs, but rather the allocation of resources where they were most required. For example, turning over to the private sector jobs which do not necessarily need to be performed by the Government.

21. Recognizing that there had been no increase in public sector wages and salaries since 1989, the Chief Minister announced that the current budget made provision for an overall increase of 5 per cent in emoluments.

III. ECONOMIC CONDITIONS

A. General

22. The economy of the Turks and Caicos Islands continues to be based primarily on property development, offshore banking, tourism, the export of fish and government expenditure. The Territory also draws considerable external assistance from the United Kingdom, Canada and such international and

regional institutions as the European Development Fund and the Caribbean Development Bank (CDB).

23. In June 1991, the Chief Minister said that although his Government would continue to promote investment and free enterprise in the Territory, developing the Islands to their full potential was not necessarily the only objective; his Government would rather emphasize the qualitative aspects of development. 8/

24. In order to reduce its economic dependence on external assistance, the Government has been expanding both the tourist industry and the Territory's role as an international banking centre.

25. According to CDB, the pace of economic activity accelerated in 1991. 9/ An increase in the number of tourists visiting the Territory and strong growth in the offshore financial services and in the fisheries subsector were credited for the improved economic performance. 2/ These increases in real output had a positive impact on government finances, which recorded a current account surplus of US$ 0.8 million. The construction sector experienced a slow-down in activity, however, particularly in the area of residential housing. 2/

26. The offshore financial services sector continued to demonstrate considerable potential for growth. The British Development Division in the Caribbean took steps to finance a promotional and regulatory project for this sector. The project was designed to focus on strengthening institutions, including the provision of an insurance administrator. 9/

27. The Chief Minister said in June 1991 that the agenda of his ruling PNP, whose motto was "Progress through Partnership", called for the economic independence of the Territory and the phasing out of development aid by 1996. He also said that, in order to initiate the process towards that goal, his party had called for some US$ 11.5 million per year in development assistance from the British Government over the next five years. 8/ The Chief Minister discussed the issue with the British authorities during his visit to London in July 1991. Although both parties agreed on the goal, however, the funds that the British Government was prepared to make available in that context fell short of the Chief Minister's expectations. 10/

28. In a letter dated 17 July 1992, a representative of the administering Power replied to a query in this regard addressed to him by the Secretary of the Subcommittee on Small Territories on behalf of the Subcommittee, as follows:

> "The British Government has agreed to provide nearly £24 million to the Turks and Caicos Islands Government over the three financial years beginning in 1992/93. Of this, £18 million in bilateral funds and £1 million in regional funds will be used in support of projects agreed between the two governments in accordance with the Turks and Caicos Islands Government's 'Progress through Partnership' policy. It is anticipated that a further £4 million will be forthcoming over the same period for activities in support of the basic functions of government. Funds will also be used to clear part of the debt the Turks and Caicos Islands Government inherited during the winding up of the national airline."

B. Public finance

29. According to CDB, the unanticipated slowdown in economic activity in 1990 had an adverse impact on fiscal performance and resulted in an increase in the overall deficit for 1990/91. In an attempt to stabilize the fiscal situation, the budget for 1991/92 focused on restoring a fiscal balance by restraining the growth in services and public sector employment, and improving revenue collection by increasing revenue, fees and various charges. Based on those measures, the Government planned to collect US$ 26.6 million in revenue and to spend US$ 25.9 million to cover recurrent and capital expenses. The Chief Minister said in his budget address that, in fact, government revenue had increased by 17 per cent during 1991/92 and was expected to grow by 12.9 per cent in 1992/93.

30. Customs duties remained the major source of government revenue, projected to generate US$ 13.75 million in 1992/93, or 46 per cent of the total income, while the offshore finance industry would generate US$ 2.5 million, civil aviation almost US$ 2 million, an accommodation tax US$ 1.75 million, work permits US$ 1.25 million and stamp duties US$ 1.25 million.

31. According to the Chief Minister, in order to develop the economy, the administration was actively encouraging private investment, much of which would come from overseas. Over the next three years, private investment of US$ 150 million was expected in tourism projects, support services and infrastructure. By 1993, construction activity would again be at a healthy level.

32. The Chief Minister added that the Government had successfully negotiated a substantial increase in British aid to the islands, totalling US$ 43 million over three years (see para. 29). With aid from other sources and the Government's savings, there would be over US$ 70 million available for public investment over the next three years.

33. The Government had also embarked on setting up an Investment Bank during the 1992/93 fiscal year, to draw in hundreds of millions of dollars in investment during the 1990s from investors world-wide for much needed projects.

34. Over the next three years, the Government's objectives remained: an average real growth rate of 15 per cent per annum; self-sufficiency as regards the national recurrent budget; the build-up of recurrent surpluses sufficient to finance continued development through public sector savings; the achievement of employment opportunities for those who are able and want to work; and general improvement in the standard of living and a better quality of life for all.

35. The Chief Minister acknowledged the difficulties experienced by the construction sector, with the resulting impact on the unemployment figures. He said that he looked forward to stronger overall economic growth, to sustain the Government's "Progress through Partnership" programme designed to make the goal of economic independence a reality.

36. The three key elements of the programme, aimed at providing more opportunities, better jobs and a much improved quality of life for the people

of the Territory, were described by the Chief Minister as partnership with the private sector, a major increase in public sector investment and public sector reform.

37. Defining these three key elements in his speech from the Throne in 1992, the Governor said that the first element, partnership with the private sector, would lead to new investments in the islands, especially in hotels, condominiums, housing, infrastructure and services. The influx of investments would provide more and better jobs for the people of the Territory.

38. The Governor described the main components of the second key element, the public sector investment programme, as being the planned construction of an airport terminal on Providenciales, a mosquito control project on Caicos Islands, an environmental improvement project on Grand Turk and the building of a water and sewerage utility plant on Providenciales. Other components included roads in the Caicos Islands and projects to promote the two main industries of the islands, namely, tourism and offshore finance.

39. The Governor also stated that the government-appointed Chief Secretary would be responsible for the management of the third key element of the "Progress through Partnership" programme, that is, the public sector reform. He said that the aim of that exercise, which was being funded as part of the aid programme from the United Kingdom, was to produce a civil service which was more responsive to the demands of both the public and the Government, and which absorbed less of the Government's revenue.

C. Land tenure, agriculture and livestock

40. The total land area of the Territory is approximately 50,180 hectares. Beach-front properties, amounting to some 2,400 hectares, are owned by private land developers. The Executive Council of the Territory and the Foreign and Commonwealth Office of the United Kingdom adopted a new land policy designed to facilitate the full and gainful participation of the islanders in the development of the country.

41. The agriculture sector is small and limited to subsistence farming for the local market. More than 90 per cent of the food consumed in the Territory is imported from the United States of America, Haiti and the Dominican Republic. Limited farming activities are carried out on North Caicos and Middle Caicos and, to a lesser extent, on Providenciales and Grand Turk.

42. In his Budget Speech, the Chief Minister expressed his conviction that the Turks and Caicos could become self-sufficient in certain food items. He said that the Minister for Natural Resources had taken the initiative to review the agricultural facilities in the Territory. He announced the Government's intention to explore actively with the private sector the establishment of market gardening and farming, first on North Caicos where there was a reasonable supply of underground fresh water. This would supply the tourist industry with some of its food requirements and provide jobs.

43. The Government was also seeking to assist cattle owners in relocating their cattle and in organizing a proper husbandry industry, with the hope of supplying the local market with meat products.

D. Fisheries

44. Fishing is one of the most important primary economic activities in the Territory. Its main commodities are lobster and conch. This industry provides all of the Territory's exports and is an important source of employment.

45. The Chief Minister said that the fishing industry employed 7.5 per cent of the private sector workforce, and contributed a similar amount to the gross domestic product of the islands. The lobster resource on the Caicos Bank had the potential for an annual harvesting of 350 tons.

46. According to CDB, there were indications that the output of conch and lobster, which had declined steadily since 1985, increased in 1991. Sustained improvement could be constrained, however, by overfishing and the decline in the number of fishermen, owing to the fact that the relatively high wages offered in the tourist and construction sectors have led to a drift of labour away from other sectors in the economy, such as fisheries. 2/

47. The long-term priority of the Government will be to strengthen the Fisheries Department. Its aim is to turn the Department, from the enforcement and revenue collection agency that it is at present, into an authority which would have the competence to monitor, support and regulate the fisheries industry. The Government has begun that process by identifying and arranging to train staff with skills in research and management. Two fisheries officers and one clerk have been added to the Department.

E. Tourism

48. Tourism continued to be the main source of revenue for the Territory. As such, the Government accords high priority to the carefully planned development of this sector.

49. According to CDB, 2/ tourist activity accelerated in 1991. Total arrivals increased by 13.3 per cent in 1991 from 48,756 in 1990 to 55,248 in 1991. There was a marginal increase of 0.9 per cent in arrivals from the United States, reflecting primarily the adverse impact of the Persian Gulf War and the downturn in the United States economy. In contrast, the increase in arrivals from Canada, Europe and the Caribbean ranged from 42 per cent to 48 per cent. In 1991, tourism contributed some 60 per cent to the national recurrent revenue.

50. The substantial increase in Canadian and European arrivals in 1991 was related to increased promotional activity and an improved marketing strategy. The United States market accounted for 65 per cent of total arrivals, and thus could affect the overall tourism performance noticeably. Tourism growth continued to be centred around Providenciales, with total arrivals increasing

by 19.4 per cent on that island as compared with a decline of 17.6 per cent and 12.9 per cent on Grand Turk and South Caicos, respectively. 2/

51. In 1991, the closure of a major airline worsened the problem of airline access from the United States. Increased flights by Cayman Airways and a United States charter provided a temporary solution to the problem. According to CDB, however, efforts must be made to encourage a major United States carrier to schedule a new service in order to increase substantially the number of tourist arrivals, particularly since the problem of airline access to the Territory had led to the diversion of visitors to other destinations in the Caribbean. 2/

52. Private sector interest in tourism is currently focused almost exclusively on Providenciales, although the Government was hoping to stimulate increased interest in the other islands over the medium term. This would require a substantial investment to upgrade and expand infrastructure and, at the same time, address a number of environmental concerns, including the question of domestic animals running loose on Grand Turk, causing damage to the environment. 9/

53. The Chief Minister said in his Budget Speech that the Government had received US$ 800,000 from the United Kingdom for the promotion of tourism over the next two years. In addition, in an effort to create greater awareness of tourism and its benefits to the community, the Tourist Board had initiated the following programmes:

(a) "Voices of hospitality", a monthly radio talk show, hosted by the Tourist Board, addressing current tourism issues in the islands;

(b) Tourism speaks, a weekly newspaper column dealing with tourism issues; and

(c) Cactus press, a monthly newsletter produced by the Tourist Board and addressing current happenings in the hospitality/tourist industry.

54. The Chief Minister reasserted the Government's commitment to quality tourism, and mentioned measures, taken or envisaged by the Government, to achieve that goal in the field of human resources management and development.

55. According to the Chief Minister, a greater number of quality hotel rooms was required in the Territory. There were 1,014 rooms, of which less than half could be truly considered quality rooms. The Government had therefore decided to foster the construction of new accommodation, and it was estimated that by 1995 the number of hotel rooms would be just under 3,000.

F. Communications and other basic facilities

56. Communications and other basic facilities are important to the Territory in terms of both maintaining contact between the inhabited islands and servicing the economy of the Territory, which depends on tourism, offshore banking and the activities of the business community.

Roads

57. The total length of roads in the Territory was 547 kilometres at the end of 1989, and their distribution by island was as follows: Grand Turk, 79 kilometres; Salt Cay, 12 kilometres; South Caicos, 45 kilometres; Middle Caicos, 64 kilometres; North Caicos, 130 kilometres; and Providenciales, 137 kilometres.

Sea

58. There are small harbours on Grand Turk and Providenciales, as well as docking facilities on North Caicos, South Caicos and Salt Cay. Middle Caicos has no docking facilities. Most materials required for the physical development of the island, as well as durable and other bulk consumer goods, are imported and delivered by sea. The majority of vessels calling at the ports of the Territory operate from the United States or the Dominican Republic.

Air

59. According to the territorial Government, there are six airstrips on the Turks and Caicos Islands, of which only the one located on Salt Cay remains unpaved, while the airstrip on Middle Caicos is partially paved. Air transport is heavily relied upon for carrying both passengers and goods between the islands. Links with outside countries are provided by major airports on Grand Turk and Providenciales and, to a lesser extent, by a small airport on South Caicos.

60. In March 1992 the Chief Minister said that since Providenciales was the Territory's major tourist destination, the Government had turned its attention with urgency to the development of a proper airport terminal on that island. The Government had been able to secure a sum of US$ 3 million from the United Kingdom and a soft loan of an equal amount from the European Development Bank for the renovation and expansion of the facility.

G. Assistance from organizations of the United Nations system and other international institutions

61. Several United Nations bodies and specialized agencies provide assistance to the Territory. Such assistance is coordinated and carried out within the framework of inter-agency consultations between the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the United Nations Population Fund, the International Labour Organisation and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO). The Territory also receives aid from the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO).

62. Within the United Nations system, UNDP continues to be the main source of technical assistance to the Territory. In its Fourth Programming Cycle, UNDP provided high-level technical support to key sectors of the Territory. This enabled the setting up of various projects, in housing, education and water management, with the assistance of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements, UNESCO and the Department for Economic and Social Development of

the United Nations Secretariat, respectively. UNDP provided technical advice and support in the development and formulation of national policies, in the improvement of infrastructure, in export promotion, and in human resources development. For the ongoing country programme, and following talks between UNDP and the Government on development priorities, UNDP will, inter alia, provide training to develop administrative management skills and assistance in environmental management. In the latter activity, UNDP will address the issues of water management, sewage disposal and reduction of the impact of the tourist industry on the environment.

63. The Turks and Caicos was admitted as an associate member of the Caribbean Community in July 1991.

IV. SOCIAL CONDITIONS

A. Labour and immigration

64. The Government is the largest employer, with 31 per cent of the active labour force holding government jobs. Agriculture and fisheries account for 18.5 per cent of the labour force, the hotel and restaurant industry employs 15.2 per cent and the construction and installation sector together employ 12.7 per cent. The manufacturing, commerce, transport and communication, insurance and real estate sectors employ, in sum, 13 per cent of the workforce.

65. According to CDB, the growth in tourism and construction on Providenciales continued to stimulate the movement of labour from the other islands. In addition, the increased employment of immigrant workers to meet the strong demand for labour was partly responsible for a sharp increase in population over the past three years. In 1991, the Government announced its intention to formalize the foreign worker scheme in order to institutionalize the present ad hoc arrangements. It anticipated that the expected strong growth in tourism on Providenciales in the medium term would generate further increases in the flows of foreign workers, placing considerable stress on social services. 8/

Immigration

66. The influx of illegal immigrants from neighbouring islands, either for political or economic reasons, is a recurrent problem. In May 1990, the Legislative Council enacted an immigration bill, which provided for new methods of dealing with work permit applications, the establishment of an immigration board, the redesignation of the post of Chief Immigration Officer as Director of Immigration and the introduction of a firm policy on the whole question of immigration.

67. In his 1992 address to the Legislature, the Chief Minister said that in an effort to control illegal immigration, the Government had introduced a system of computerized records to track down illegal immigrants.

B. Public health and environment

68. According to the Chief Minister, a new national health plan was being developed, which would address the issue of the skewed distribution of health care that has existed in the Territory over the years. A health planning and management adviser would be provided by the British Overseas Development Agency (ODA) to assist the Government in restructuring the health sector.

69. The plan would recognize the demographic changes resulting from the location of commercial centres of activities. Within that framework, it would address the inadequacy of health facilities on Providenciales. According to the Minister, steps had already been taken to begin the construction of a well-equipped primary and secondary health care facility on the island in the near future.

70. A medical doctor, who is also a psychiatrist, had been recruited for South Caicos which had been without a physician for a long time.

71. According to the Chief Minister, all health indicators in the islands were good and immunization rates were high. Communicable diseases had been well controlled, except for sexually transmitted infections.

72. The acquired immune deficiency syndrome (AIDS) remained the number one public health problem. The Territory's Medium-term Plan contained strategies for the prevention and control of this disease, to be implemented with financial help from ODA, PAHO, the European Economic Community (EEC) and UNICEF.

73. Since 1991, the Environmental Health Department has made tremendous strides in the monitoring of the quality of drinking water. In order to address the threat of cholera which existed, a project was being drafted for the Five Cays area which was considered a high risk sector. A supply of safe filtered and chlorinated water would be delivered to the community through protected wells equipped with pumps. In addition to the improvement of water quality, the Department's main goals remained the improvement of solid waste management and vector control (mosquitoes), as well as the training of staff.

C. Social and welfare services

74. During the period under review, the Government introduced a National Insurance Fund, to which all civil servants are to contribute, according to the Chief Minister. The Fund would provide assistance to people who are ill, out of work or retired.

75. Also during that period, the Government embarked on a treatment and rehabilitation programme for drug addicts and their families, resulting in the establishment of drug support groups on Grand Turk, South Caicos and Providenciales.

76. During the period under consideration, the Government requested and obtained from the United Kingdom a grant of US$ 1 million to be used in the housing sector. In this regard, the Government approved the construction of

100 affordable homes - 60 for Providenciales and 40 for Grand Turk. The prices of these homes would be below US$ 60,000.

77. In order to increase further the number of affordable houses in the Territory, the Government offered major concessions to the private sector. Further, the Government made plans for an immigrant housing project in the Five Cays area of Providenciales, which it submitted to the EEC for funding.

D. Education

78. There are two main levels in the Turks and Caicos Islands educational system, namely, primary and secondary. Children receive seven years of primary schooling between 4 and 12 years of age. Secondary education at the three public high schools in the Territory lasts for five years. Education is free and compulsory for children up to the age of 15 years. A private commercial college is functioning on Grand Turk.

79. The Chief Minister said in March 1992 that there were 11 primary schools in the Territory with an enrolment of 1,383 students and 72 teachers, 4 high schools with an enrolment of 993 and a staff of 83, for a total of 2,376 students and 155 teachers.

80. Only 40 of the primary school teachers were trained. The Ministry of Education has set a target that within five years all of the teachers at the primary level would be fully trained. At the high school level, 85 per cent of the staff were expatriate contract officers, including three principals. The Government was committed to providing further scholarships for students to obtain university degrees and thereby reduce the ratio of contract teachers in the high schools.

81. The secondary schools continued to offer the Caribbean Examinations Council programme at the general and basic proficiency levels. In addition, students continued to take the national examination administered by the Department of Education.

82. Recently, an additional curriculum, the Pre-Vocational Educational Programme, was offered to a number of students who displayed a greater aptitude for technical vocational subjects. The programme receives recognition from the Royal Society of Arts of the United Kingdom.

83. The School for Field Studies on South Caicos, the first university-level institution, is devoted exclusively to marine environmental studies. Under an agreement concluded between the Government and the Ministry of Education in the Bahamas, qualified students from the Territory can attend the College of the Bahamas on scholarships provided by the Government of the Bahamas.

Notes

1/ The information contained in the present paper has been derived from published reports and from information transmitted to the Secretary-General on 4 April 1990 by the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland under Article 73 e of the Charter of the United Nations.

2/ Caribbean Development Bank, Annual Economic Report, 1991 (Turks and Caicos Islands).

3/ Turks and Caicos News, 23 April 1991.

4/ Ibid., 27 April 1991.

5/ Ibid., 29 August 1991.

6/ Daily News (United States Virgin Islands), 20 November 1992.

7/ The local currency is the United States dollar.

8/ Turks and Caicos News, 8 June 1991.

9/ Caribbean Development Bank, Annual Report, 1991 (Barbados).

10/ Turks and Caicos News, 20 July 1991.